



*Alabama Department
of Revenue*



Motor Vehicle Division

Alabama Licensing Officials Conference January 13 -14, 2016



Abandoned/Unclaimed Act

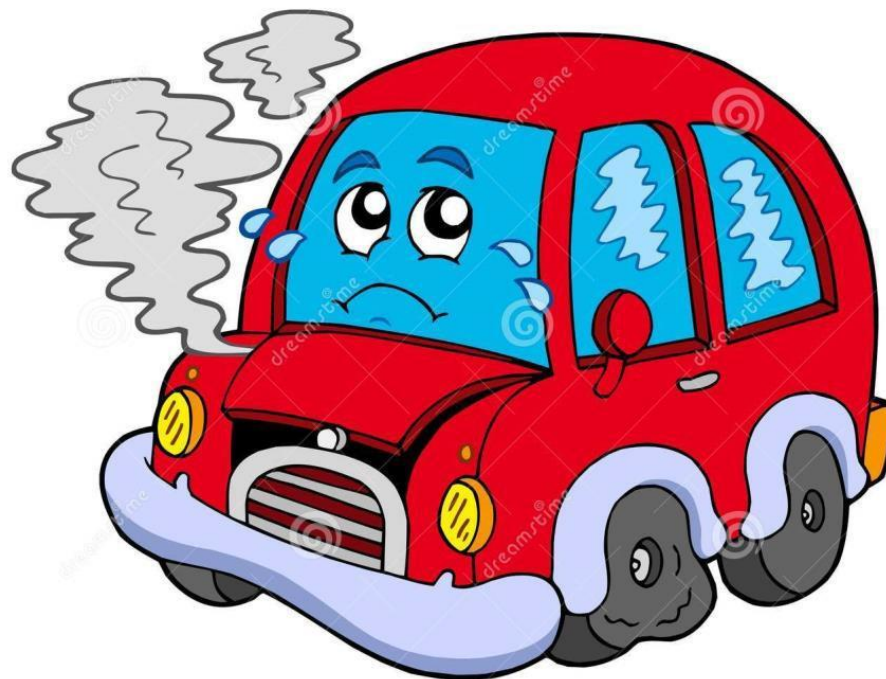


Alabama Department
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Motor Vehicle Division

Abandoned Motor Vehicle Updates



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Abandoned Motor Vehicle

ACT 2015-470 Effective Date: July 1, 2016

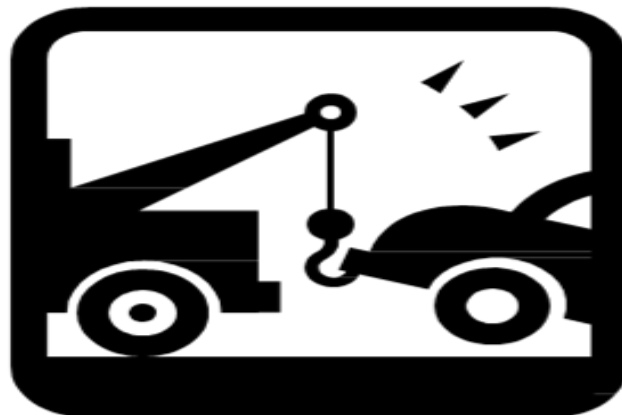
Redefines the definition of an “Unclaimed Vehicle”:

- A motor vehicle left unattended on a public road or highway for more than 48 hours.
- A motor vehicle, not left on private property for repairs, that has remained on private or other public property for a period of more than 48 hours without the consent of the owner or lessee of the property.
- A motor vehicle, left on private property for repairs, that has not been reclaimed within 48 hours from the latter of either the date the repairs were completed or the agreed upon redemption date.



Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- Vehicle must be reported as unclaimed to the DOR within **five (5)** calendar days from the date the vehicle was first considered unclaimed by the person or entity, including towing companies, in possession of the vehicle.
- The person or entity in possession of an unclaimed motor vehicle shall report the vehicle as unclaimed using the department's "Unclaimed Vehicle Report" portal in MVTRIP.
- Storage fees cannot be charged until the vehicle is reported. An NCIC stolen vehicle check will be performed when reported unclaimed.





Abandoned Motor Vehicle

The following information will be entered into the portal:

- VIN
- Year
- Make
- Model
- Tag state & Tag number (If available)
- Reporting Entity Information
 - 1) Name
 - 2) Business Physical Address
 - 3) City
 - 4) State
 - 5) Zip
 - 6) Phone Number
 - 7) E-mail address
- Physical Location of the Vehicle
- Select the reasons vehicle is reported as unclaimed



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Abandoned Motor Vehicle

The screenshot shows the Alabama Motor Vehicle Division website. The browser address bar displays <https://www.mvtrip.alabama.gov/MVTRIP>. The page features a sidebar with a list of services: Related Applications, Registration, Inventory, Title, Records Request, Mandatory Liability Insurance, **Unclaimed Vehicle Report** (highlighted with a red circle), Surety Bond, Editor, Tag Precommitment, and Dealer License. Below the 'Unclaimed Vehicle Report' link are two icons: 'New Report' (a document with a star) and 'Search Reports' (a magnifying glass over a document). The main content area on the right contains three news items: '12/29/2015 - Memo 2015-32 Redesigned and New License Plates for Issuance Beginning January 1, 2016', '12/29/2015 - Memo 2015-31 Revision for Memo 2015-30 Legislation Effective January 1, 2016', and '12/8/2015 - Memo 2015-30 Legislation Effective January 1, 2016'. Each item includes a link to view the memo and is attributed to the Motor Vehicle Division. A 'View News Archive' button is located at the bottom of the news section. The footer contains a 'Legal Information' section with a disclaimer: 'DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE COMPUTER SYSTEMS ARE FOR AUTHORIZED USERS ONLY. This system contains state government information and may contain federal government information and is protected by state and/or federal law.'

12/29/2015 - Memo 2015-32 Redesigned and New License Plates for Issuance Beginning January 1, 2016
[Click Here To View This Memo](#)
- Motor Vehicle Division

12/29/2015 - Memo 2015-31 Revision for Memo 2015-30 Legislation Effective January 1, 2016
[Click Here To View This Memo](#)
- Motor Vehicle Division

12/8/2015 - Memo 2015-30 Legislation Effective January 1, 2016
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[View News Archive](#)

Legal Information

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Motor Vehicle Division

Abandoned Motor Vehicle

Unclaimed Vehicle Report

Once you submit your report, you will receive a receipt in PDF format. To view this file, you will need a free PDF reader such as [Foxit Reader](#) or [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#). You can download either of these from the links below.

[Get FOXIT READER](#) [Get ADOBE READER](#)

Vehicle Information

VIN <input type="text"/>	Please Confirm the VIN <input type="text"/>	Vehicle Year <input type="text" value="Enter a Year"/>
Make <input type="text" value="Choose a Vehicle Make"/>	Model <input type="text"/>	Tag State <input type="text" value="Choose a State"/>
Tag Number <input type="text"/>	Date Vehicle Left at Reporting Entity <input type="text"/>	

Reporting Entity Information

Reporting Entity Name <input type="text"/>	Physical Address <input type="text"/>	City <input type="text"/>
State <input type="text" value="Choose a State"/>	Zip Code <input type="text"/>	Phone Number <input type="text"/>
Email Address <input type="text"/>		



Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- ADOR will put a 45- calendar day hold on the title record so no title can be issued during that time period unless the title transaction occurred prior to the date the motor vehicle was deemed unclaimed.
- If the motor vehicle was returned to the recorded owner or lienholder of record during the 45-calendar day hold period, the person or entity who reported the motor vehicle as unclaimed will report the return of the motor vehicle in the unclaimed portal within **five** (5) calendar days.





Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- A person or entity in possession of an unclaimed motor vehicle will utilize the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) to determine the current title state of record or, if no current title exists for the motor vehicle, the most recent state of registration for the motor vehicle.
- The person or reporting entity may utilize NMVTIS “Consumer Access Service Provider” to obtain the required information.
- A current listing of Consumer Access Service Providers can be obtained using the following link: http://www.vehiclehistory.gov/nmvtis_vehiclehistory.html.
- The MVTRIP portal will have a link to the NMVTIS website with the service providers listed.
- Please note: NMVTIS records only contain records for motorized vehicles, and not all states currently report to NMVTIS.



Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- Submit a records request to the state of record within five calendar days from the date the motor vehicle was reported as unclaimed to the department.
- Enter date notice was sent as well as owner/lienholder information and the NMVTIS transaction ID# into the portal.
- If no NMVTIS record exists and there is evidence that could reasonably indicate that the motor vehicle has been registered in another state, submit a records request to the state of registration within five calendar days from the date the motor vehicle was reported as unclaimed to the department.
- Evidence that could be reasonably obtained to indicate state of registration:
 - Advertisement on vehicle (Business logo, etc.)
 - Tags/license plates
 - VIN



Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- Within 5 calendar days of receipt of the records from the state of record.
- Submit a notice to the owner and lienholder of the following:
 - Location of the vehicle (physical address)
 - Normal business hours of the holding facility
 - Any accrued charges or fees (repairs, recovery and storage)
 - Daily storage rate
 - Mailing address of the person or entity in possession of the vehicle
 - Telephone number of the person or entity in possession of the vehicle
- The date of notice must be entered into the unclaimed/abandoned portal.





Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- The notice must include the following language in no smaller than 10 point type: "If this motor vehicle is not redeemed by the recorded owner or lienholder of record within 30 calendar days from the date of this notice, the motor vehicle shall be considered abandoned as defined in Section 32-13-1, Code of Alabama 1975. The motor vehicle may then be sold pursuant to the provisions of the Alabama Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act as provided for in Title 32, Chapter 13, Code of Alabama 1975."
- Failure to report the vehicle as unclaimed, or failure to notify the owner and lienholder will void all claims and liens for vehicle storage prior to the time the vehicle is reported as unclaimed.



Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- After 30 calendar days from the date the notice was sent to the owner and lienholder and deemed unclaimed, the vehicle shall be considered **abandoned** and may be sold at a public auction.
- The portal will not allow the date entered as abandoned to be less than 30 days from the date the notice was sent to owner and other interested parties.
- **ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE.** A motor vehicle as defined in Section 32-8-2, that has been unclaimed as provided in Section 32-8-84 for not less than 30 calendar days from the date the notice was sent to the owner and lienholder of record, or if no owner or lienholder of record could be determined, has been unclaimed for not less than 30 calendar days. The term "abandoned motor vehicle" also includes any attached aftermarket equipment installed on the motor vehicle that replaced factory installed equipment.



Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- Motor vehicle that is considered an abandoned motor vehicle may be sold at a public auction.



30 Days prior to sale:

- Notice given by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the sale is to be held, provided the vehicle is registered in the county. **Publication is not required if the vehicle is not registered in the county where the sale is to be held.**
- In counties in which no newspaper is published, notice shall be given by posting such notice in a conspicuous place at the courthouse.



Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- At least 35 days prior to the public auction, the person or entity will enter the auction information into the unclaimed/abandoned portal.
- The following information must be included in the notice and shall be provided through the portal:
 - Name of current owner and lienholder
 - Address of the current owner and lienholder
 - Contact information for the person or entity filing the notice (name, address, telephone, email)
 - Date of the auction
 - Time of the auction
 - Place of the sale (physical location of the vehicle) city and county
 - Description of the vehicle to be sold (years, make, model and VIN)





Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- The auction must occur where the vehicle is located.
- The department, within five calendar days of receipt of the notice of public auction, will send a motor vehicle interest termination notice to the current owner and lienholder of record, if any.
- The motor vehicle interest termination notice will:
 - Advise the owner and lienholder of record, if any, that their interest in the motor vehicle, upon its sale, will be terminated and personal property and items contained in the motor vehicle will be disposed of in a manner determined by the person or entity conducting the sale.
 - Include the appeal rights, pursuant to Sections 32-13-4 and 40-2A-8, to contest the proposed sale of the motor vehicle.
 - Include all the information provided in the notice of public auction.





Abandoned Motor Vehicle

- After the required time (35 calendar days from the date the notice of sale was reported), an abandoned bill of sale may be created from the portal.
- The bill of sale information in the portal can be used to populate the title application (ALTS). Note: if the brand on the title is salvage, the brand on the new title must also be salvage.
- If the vehicle is junked, the bill of sale in the portal can be used to report the vehicle in the SCRAP system.
- If ADOR receives notice of appeal within 35 calendar days from the date of the notice of sale, the vehicle cannot be sold (i.e. bill of sale cannot be generated). The Tax Tribunal will notify the MVD if the sale is appealed and the MVD will suspend the process in the portal.



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Questions?

